

THE USE OF *EPIMYS* IN A GENERIC SENSE.

In his recent paper on the genus name of the rats (Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. XXIII, p. 57) Mr. G. S. Miller appears to be under the impression that he is the first to re-ascertain Dr. Trouessart's subgeneric name *Epimys* and to employ it in a generic sense. This, however, is not the case, for Dr. K. A. Satunin employed the name *Epimys norvegicus* for the brown rat on pages 19 and 71 of a paper in Vol. IV of *Mitteilungen des Kaukasischen Museums*, Tiflis, 1908. I may add that if it is considered necessary to separate the rats from the mice under a distinct name, in my opinion subgeneric rank is sufficient; so that we should have *Mus* (*Epimys*) *norvegicus* and *M. (E.) rattus*, as originally proposed by Trouessart.

—*R. Lydekker.*

INCUBATION PERIOD OF BOX-TURTLE EGGS.

So few data have been published on the subject, that it seems advisable to record the following observations: A box-turtle (*Terrapene carolina*) was found June 16, 1908, depositing its eggs on the south side of a high dry knoll at Viresco, Va. The eggs had not hatched August 23, but on August 26 the young had dug their way to the surface and left behind them the fragments of the shells. The period of incubation was therefore 70-72 days.

—*Wells W. Cooke.*